

John Mather  
An inventory of His Papers  
in  
The Library of the University of British Columbia  
Special Collections Division

Prepared By  
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## Display - British Columbia Archival Union List (BCAUL)

**Provenance:** Mather, John  
**Title:** John Mather fonds  
**Dates:** 1837-1889  
**Physical desc.:** 6 cm of textual records  
**Bio/Admin History:** John Mather was a forest products pioneer in Ontario. He founded the Lake of the Woods Milling Company as well as the Keewatin Lumber Company in 1879. For twenty years he was active in various Gatineau Hill operations in the Ottawa Valley.  
**Scope/Content:** The fonds consists of correspondence pertaining to the building of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company in Keewatin, Ontario (1887-1889) and three school exercise books belonging to John Mather (1837 and 1838).  
**Title source:** Title based on the contents of the fonds.  
**Finding aids:** Inventory available.  
**Repository:** [University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections](#)  
**Names:** Mather, John ; Lake of the Woods Milling Company

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John Mather Papers

Box and File No.	Series	Date(s)	No. of Items
LETTERS: INCOMING			
1-1	Edward P. Allis and Co.	Feb.9/87 - Apr.6/88	10
1-2	Edward P. Allis and Co.	Apr.7/88 - Mar.21/89	19
1-3	Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	Jan.3/87 - Nov.30/88	17
1-4	J.C. Dixon	Jan.18/88 - Feb.8/88	6
1-5	W.C. Hibbard (estimate for work)	July 6/88	1
	Charles Potter (estimate for work)	July 3/88	1
	(Some printed material and a sheet comparing both estimates).		
1-6	J.G. King (Incl. telegram from Mather)	Aug.17/88 - Jan.5/88	6
1-7	Robert Mather(son)(Keewatin Lumber- ing and Mfg. Co.)	Sept.12/87 - Aug.13/88	6
1-8	Alexander Mitchell	Jan.6/87 - Apr.25/87	16
1-9	" "	May 3/87 - July 9/87	16
1-10	" "	July 25/87 - Sept.27/87	14
1-11	" "	Oct.8/87 - Dec.2/87	12
1-12	" "	Dec.4/87 - Feb.22/88	12
1-13	" "	Feb.23/88 - Mar.17/88	13
	(Incl. two telegrams from W.C. Van Horne)		
1-14	Alexander Mitchell	Mar.17/88 - Apr.6/88	15
1-15	" "	Apr.7/88 - May 31/88	14
1-16	" "	Jun.2/88 - Jun.30/88	12
1-17	" "	July 13/88 - Sept.27/88	13
1-18	" "	Sept.29/88 - Mar.30/89	18
1-19	J.H. Nye	Aug.11/87 - Aug.18/88	14
	(Incl. lists of goods needed for mill)		
1-20	The Ontario Bolt Co. Ltd.	Aug.16/87 - Dec.21/87	6
1-21	Bank of Ottawa	Nov.1/87 - Nov.28/87	2

1-22	J.I. Parkin	Nov.21/87 - Dec.31/87	3
1-23	[N.G.] Reid (Two letters to Reid from J.H. Nye)	Jun.27/87 - Nov.22/87	5
1-24	A.R. Williams (Incl. phamphlet on a kiln)	Dec.3/87 - Jan.19/88	5
1-25	George Wood (Incl. diagrams and estimates)	Jan.17/87 - Aug.19/87	3
	LETTERS: INCOMING, MISC.		
1-26	J.H. Ashdown	Mar. 29/88	1
	Bannett and Record	Aug.20 and 24/88	2
	A.J. Christie	Mar. 29/88	1
	J. [Cuvier]	Aug.13/88	1
	Frank J. Rp' John	Jan.4/88	1
	L.W.M. Co.	Dec.15/88	1
	John Macara	Aug.27/87	1
	McPherson and Davidson	Dec.26/87	1
	C.H. Mortimer	Nov.14/87	1
	H. [Pimbey]	Aug.20/88	1
	James Robertson and Co.	Nov.18 and 21/87	2
	W.A.Scott	Dec.11/88	1
	Geo. D. Woods and Co.	Mar.29/88	1
	Signature illegible	May 17/?	1
	ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT - LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO. LTD.		
1-27	Bookeeping sheets for the mill, 8pp.		
1-28	Lists of costs and materials for mill, 14pp.		
1-29	Estimates for house and office to be connected to the mill, 6pp.		
1-30	Cost of lumber for mill, 7pp.		
1-31	Particulars on various aspects of running and equipping the mill, 3pp.		
1-32	Spare articles wanted for the mill, 4pp.		

- 1-33 Correspondence/Particulars re: insurance for the mill, 8pp.  
MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING DIRECTORS OF LAKE OF THE  
WOODS MILLING CO. LTD.
- 1-34 Minutes: May 3, 1888 } Incl. resolutions passed, 9pp.  
Minutes: Aug. 19, 1888 }
- Letters from Robert Turnbull (Secretary of Co.) announcing  
meetings etc. ( 6 letters) July 7/87 - Dec.19/88
- LETTERS OF APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TENDERS
- 1-35 List of jobs and salaries at the mill, 4pp.
- 1-36 Applications for position of miller, Feb.23/87 - Mar.6/88, 6 letters
- 1-37 Applications for jobs (buyer, salesman, bookkeeper, agent, etc.),  
Jan.19/87 - Aug.28/88, 11 letters
- 1-38 Applications for jobs and tenders, Jan.15/87 - Dec.27/87, 13 letters
- 1-39 Applications for jobs and tenders/ estimates of cost for parts to  
build the mill, Jan.17/87 - Sept.11/87, 23 letters
- 1-40 Applications for jobs in hoop and barrel factory, May 30/87 -  
May 12/88, 10 letters
- 1-41 List of tenders re: Milling Co. houses and blueprint for same, by George  
Browne (architect), July, 1888, 3pp.

School exercise books  
1-(42-44) Three books relating to his school activities

ca. 1837,  
1838

John Mather's daughter Jennie Mather married James Wilson Robertson in 1896. There are some documents related to John Mather in the first box of James Wilson Robertson's papers.

For example:

- His last will,
- Receipt for payment of land in Theodire Street in Ottawa (now Laurier Ave.),
- Original document related to disposal of sawdust into rivers, and,
- Death notice in St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Bulletin (1907?)